

STAFFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1949

JUNE, 1950

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,
7, St. Mary's Grove,
Stafford.

June, 1950.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Stafford Rural District
Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1949. In the compilation of the report I have followed the general recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

In 1949 the Stafford Rural District had a Live Birth Rate of 20.8 and a Death Rate of 10.1 per 1,000 Civilian Population compared with respective figures of 16.7 and 11.7 for England and Wales. The excess of Live Births over Total Deaths was 164. The Infant Mortality Rate in the area was 25, as compared with 32 for England and Wales.

The estimated population was given as 18,830 (Civilian 15,310) by the Registrar-General.

Compared with 1948, there was a decrease in the incidence of Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough. No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the area in 1949. In 1949 as far as statistics are concerned, the Stafford Rural District compared most favourably with England and Wales.

Thirty-three permanent houses were built by the Local Authority in 1949, five by private enterprise, two by the County Council to house members of the Police Force, and 47 by the 16 M.U. authorities. In addition a further 22 were provided by the R.D.C. by the conversion of former Service buildings at Castlefields, Aqualate Park. The "Hobhouse Survey" inspection of the housing in the area was continued during 1949, the results being tabulated in the body of the report. The remarks on housing which I made in the introduction to the 1948 Report are still most applicable. Provision of new houses remains a most serious and urgent problem. The Council's housing quota merely touches the fringe of this problem. As regards the houses built during the year the Chief Sanitary Inspector has been most assiduous in his enquiries re housing applicants and presenting full information of serious cases to the sub-committees concerned.

Elsewhere in the Report are dealt with the other two major problems of the Council—Water Supplies and Sewerage.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Staff of the Public Health Department for help in preparing this Report and to acknowledge the help and courtesy extended to me by the Public Health Committee and Members of the Council during 1949.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER THOMSON.

Public Health Committee, 1949

Chairman—

COUNCILLOR A. J. BOURNE

Vice-Chairman—

COUNCILLOR H. C. PLANT

Members—

Councillor J. R. Ball, J.P.	Councillor A. J. James
„ W. Bramhall	„ H. J. Moulton
„ H. J. Broun	„ W. Martin, M.B.E.
„ D. N. Eccleston	„ D.H.T. Smith, C.C
„ Rev. W. F. O'N. Fisher,	„ C. W. Stubbs
„ M.A.	„ A. J. Tomlinson
„ A. H. Johnson	„ T. Weetman

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health—

A. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

G. M. LAWTON, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Sanitary Inspectors—

A. F. WARD, M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector

F. WEEDON, M.S.I.A.

Clerk—

MISS L. E. ECCLESHALL

Junior Clerk and Trainee—

H. G. MORGAN

General Statistics, Social Conditions and Health Services in the Area

Area (in acres)	.. .. .	80,249
Number of inhabited houses	.. .. .	4,180
Rateable Value	.. .. .	£75,292
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.. . . .	£332
Population (as estimated by the Registrar-General) :		
Total Population	.. .. .	18,830
Civilian Population	.. .. .	15,310
Estimated number of Agricultural Workers	.. . . .	1,149
Estimated number of workers in other occupations	.. . . .	5,101
Estimated number of employed persons	.. . . .	6,250

There were no alterations in the boundaries of the Rural Area in 1949.

For map of district, parishes, etc., see body of report.

Industries

Many residents in the Area are normally mainly engaged in Agriculture, Dairy Farming and Allied occupations, but a substantial number of persons resident in the Rural Area are employed in the County Town of Stafford, where the chief industries are Engineering and Boot and Shoe Manufacturing.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Voluntary Hospitals

Bacteriological facilities are made available to Medical Practitioners in the Area by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. The facilities include examinations of Throat Swabs, Sputum Tests, Blood Tests, etc. Results of all examinations relevant to Public Health are made available to the appropriate Medical Officer of Health. The Director of the Stafford Laboratory is Lt.-Col. Phease, whose helpful advice is available to the Medical Officer of Health when occasion demands. Bacteriological examinations of samples of water are undertaken by the Laboratory Service.

Chemical Examinations of samples of water are carried out at the County Chemical Laboratory which is directed by Mr. Houlbrooke, the County Analyst.

The Stafford Rural District Council, until 5th July, 1948, had agreements with the Stafford Borough and Rugeley Urban District Councils for use of their Ambulances for general hospital work, and the services provided proved adequate and sufficient for the needs of the Rural Area. On 5th July, 1948, the duty of providing Ambulance Services was placed upon the County Council as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Until July 5th the Mid-Staffs. Joint Hospital Board, of which the Stafford R.D. was a constituent member, provided ambulance facilities for the conveyance of cases of Infectious Diseases to Isolation Hospitals under the Board's jurisdiction. The Regional Hospital Board (Birmingham) thereafter took over responsibility for these hospitals.

The County Council is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the Stafford R.D. Area. Child Welfare Centres are available at Gnosall, Great Haywood, Hixon and Walton, and the Health Visitors do excellent work in promoting the Welfare of young children in the district. Your Medical Officer of Health attends the Welfare Centres and Schools in the Area and is thus enabled to assess the health standards of the young life in the district.

There are two General Medical Practitioners resident in the Stafford R.D. and Practitioners from the neighbouring towns of Stafford, Rugeley, Newport, etc., also practise in the Area. The various parishes in the Stafford R.D. are well served by District Nurse-Midwives.

The Staffordshire General Infirmary, from 5th July, 1948, under the direction of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, serves the general hospital needs of the district. From that date the Board also assumed responsibility for the provision of Maternity Hospital facilities which previously were provided by the Staffordshire County Council. There are also several small private Maternity Homes providing for the district.

During the year the Council subscribed to the Central Council for Health Education which represented the Ministry of Health in Health Education matters, and use was made of Health Education leaflets, etc.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1949

In the Stafford Rural District in 1949 the Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Civilian Population was 20.8, compared with a rate of 16.7 for England and Wales.

Stafford R.D.				
Live Birth Rate per				
1,000 Civilian				
Population				
Year				
1949	..	..	..	20.8
1948	..	..	..	18.0
1947	..	..	..	18.7
1946	..	..	..	18.7
1945	..	..	..	18.2
1944	..	..	..	19.6
1943	..	..	..	21.1
1942	..	..	..	19.3
1941	..	..	..	17.9
1940	..	..	..	16.8

The Still-Birth rate per 1,000 Civilian Population was 0.20 in 1949, compared with 0.79, 0.86, 0.27, 0.41, 0.40 in 1948, 1947, 1946, 1945 and 1944, respectively.

During 1949 the Rate of Illegitimate to Legitimate Births was 1 to 23, compared with figures of 1 to 16, 1 to 13, 1 to 16, 1 to 15, 1 to 14, in 1948, 1947, 1946, 1945 and 1944, respectively.

There were 318 (273) Live Births in the Rural Area in 1949, 163 (146) boys and 155 (127) girls. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1948.

In the following table comparative figures for Live and Still-Births are shown for England and Wales :—

Live Birth-Rate per 1,000						
Civilian Population						
England &						
Year			Stafford R.D.		Wales	
1949	..	..	20.8	..	16.7	
1948	..	..	18.0	..	17.9	
1947	..	..	18.7	..	20.5	
1946	..	..	18.7	..	19.1	
1945	..	..	18.2	..	16.1	
1944	..	..	19.6	..	17.6	
1943	..	..	21.1	..	16.5	

Still Birth Rate per 1,000						
Civilian Population						
England &						
Year			Stafford R.D.		Wales	
1949	..	..	0.20	..	0.39	
1948	..	..	0.79	..	0.42	
1947	..	..	0.86	..	0.50	
1946	..	..	0.27	..	0.53	
1945	..	..	0.41	..	0.46	
1944	..	..	0.40	..	0.50	
1943	..	..	0.55	..	0.51	

There were three Still-Births (1 m., 2 f.) in 1949, all legitimate.

Deaths

In 1949 the Death Rate per 1,000 of the Civilian Population was 10.1, compared with a Rate of 11.7 for England and Wales.

			Death Rate per 1000 Civilian Population		
			England &		
Year			Stafford R.D.	Wales	
1949	..	..	10.1	..	11.7
1948	..	..	9.1	..	10.8
1947	..	..	10.2	..	12.0
1946	..	..	9.3	..	11.5
1945	..	..	10.9	..	11.4
1944	..	..	9.8	..	11.6
1943	..	..	12.9	..	12.1

In the Stafford Rural District in 1949 total deaths numbered 154, 87 males and 67 females. The excess of live births over total deaths was 164, compared with 135, 129 and 140 in 1948, 1947 and 1946, respectively.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 8, 8 legitimate and 0 illegitimate, giving a Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 25 compared with 32 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality Rate

			Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births		
			England &		
Year			Stafford R.D.	Wales	
1949	..	..	25	..	32
1948	..	..	29	..	34
1947	..	..	32	..	41
1946	..	..	61	..	43
1945	..	..	22	..	46
1944	..	..	44	..	46

Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age

			Rates per 1,000 Live Births		
			Stafford R.D. Wales		
1949	..	..	—	..	3.0
1948	..	..	11	..	3.3
1947	..	..	—	..	5.8
1946	..	..	—	..	4.4
1945	..	..	—	..	5.6

In the Rural Area in 1949 no children under 2 years of age died from Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

Deaths, 1949 : Causes

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	2	1	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	2	3
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Influenza	1	1	2
Measles	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Cancer, all sites	18	9	27
Diabetes	—	—	—
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	8	16	24
Heart Diseases	31	15	46
Other diseases of Circulatory System ..	—	1	1
Bronchitis	3	4	7
Pneumonia	2	5	7
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	3	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ..	1	—	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	—	2	2
Nephritis	2	—	2
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Premature Birth	2	1	3
Congenital Birth Injuries, etc.	4	—	4
Suicide	2	—	2
Road Traffic Accidents	1	2	3
Other Violent Causes	2	—	2
All Other Causes	6	5	11
TOTALS	87	67	154

Infectious Diseases

The Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1949 compared with that of previous years is shewn below in tabular form :—

Disease	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Scarlet Fever	34	55	35	26	27	46	59	18
Whooping Cough	36	53	16	37	35	25	78	22
Diphtheria	—	—	2	—	2	6	4	5
Erysipelas	5	3	1	2	4	2	2	9
Measles (excluding Rubella)	43	115	125	1	164	75	110	10
Acute Primary Pneumonia	6	2	3	3	2	5	6	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	2	—	1	5	1	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	—	1	10	1	7	2	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—

**Names of Parishes in Stafford Rural District shewing number of houses
(including farm houses), approximate population figures and Incidence
of Infectious Diseases in each parish in 1949**

Name of Parish	Number of Houses	* * Approximate Population	Infectious Diseases Notified									
			Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles (excluding Rubella)	Whooping Cough	Primary Pneumonia	Dysentery	Enteric or Typhoid	Para- typhoid	Erysipelas	Acute Ant. Poliomyelitis
Adbaston	160	610	5	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Baswich	328	1,256	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bradley	87	319	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brocton	198	784	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castle Church ..	188	727	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Eaton ..	161	519	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colwich	471	1,763	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Creswell	84	322	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ellenhall	53	172	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Forton	133	513	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fradswell	40	155	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gayton	50	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gnosall	615	2,229	13	—	23	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Haughton	169	537	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
High Offley .. .	187	678	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hopton and Coton	122	403	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ingestre	39	133	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marston	51	208	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—
Norbury	83	291	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Ranton	67	276	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt and Enson ..	101	386	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seighford	271	1,002	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Stowe	298	996	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tixall	56	206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weston	113	418	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitgreave	55	217	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	4,180	15,310	34	—	43	36	6	—	—	—	5	1

** In 1949 the Registrar-General gave the population of the Stafford Rural District as Total 18,830 (Civilian 15,310).

Age—Incidence of Infectious Diseases, 1949

AGE-GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Measles (excluding Rubella)		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia (Acute) Primary		Dysentery		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Puerperal Pyrexia		Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years ..	2	4	—	—	6	11	13	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years ..	10	10	—	—	12	10	4	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
11—15 years ..	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 years ..	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—30 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—50 years ..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
51—70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Over 70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	12	22	—	—	20	23	18	18	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	1	—

Infectious Diseases Notifications, 1949, showing Months of Occurrence

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	Whoop- ing Cough	Pneum'ia (Acute Primary)	Dys- entery	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Ery- sipelas	Acute Anterior Polio- myelitis
January	2	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
February	5	—	13	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
March	4	—	7	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
April	2	—	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	2	—	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
August	7	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—
October	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	3	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	1
December	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	34	—	43	36	6	—	—	—	5	1

Statistics, 1949

	Stafford Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 smaller Towns with Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 census	London Administrative County
		Rates	per 1,000 Civilian Population		
Births :—					
Live Births	20.8	16.7	18.7	18.0	18.5
Still Births	0.20	0.39	0.47	0.40	0.37
Deaths :—					
All causes	10.1	11.7	12.5	11.6	12.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	—	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.39	0.45	0.52	0.42	0.52
Influenza	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia	0.46	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever	2.22	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46
Whooping Cough	2.35	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70
Diphtheria	—	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07
Erysipelas	0.33	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	2.81	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54
Pneumonia	0.39	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.07	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Food Poisoning	—	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19

	Stafford Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 smaller Towns with Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 census	London Administrative County
Deaths :—					
All causes under 1 yr. of age	25	32	37	30	29
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ..	—	3.0	3.8	2.4	1.7
Notifications (Corrected)					
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia	—	6.31	8.14	5.30	6.82
		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births			

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

CAUSE :	Rates per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million Women aged 15—44
Abortion with Sepsis ..	0.11	8
Abortion without Sepsis ..	0.05	4
Puerperal Infections ..	0.11	
Other Maternal Causes ..	0.71	

VACCINATION

Primary Vaccinations during 1949 :—

Ages			No.
Under 1..	..	..	32
1—4 ..	..	..	4
5—14 ..	..	..	—
15 and over	..	..	—
TOTAL	..	..	<u>36</u>

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Up to 5th July, 1948, the R.D.C. was the Authority responsible for the immunisation of children of 5—14 years of age, the County Council being the Authority responsible for the protection by Immunisation of the pre-school child. On 5th July, 1948, the County Council, as Local Health Authority under the 1946 National Health Service Act, assumed responsibility for the Immunisation of Pre-school and School Children. As your Medical Officer attends the Welfare Centres and Schools in the Rural District, he has ample opportunity of stressing to parents the value of Immunisation as a protection against Diphtheria, which is an insidious and deadly disease.

During 1949, 157 children under 5 years of age and 27 over 5 years in the R.D. area received a course of Primary Immunisation. In addition 190 children each received a single re-inforcing injection.

TUBERCULOSIS

An extract from the Tuberculosis Register of the Stafford Rural District is given below :—

Year	Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
At end of December, 1949	50	35	85	23	23	46	73	58	131
„ 1948	50	35	85	23	23	46	73	58	131
„ 1947	50	34	84	22	24	46	72	58	130
„ 1946	45	32	77	21	23	44	66	55	121
„ 1945	45	30	75	21	23	44	66	53	119
„ 1944	44	28	72	17	24	41	61	52	113
„ 1943	41	28	69	14	23	37	55	51	106

On 5th July, 1948, responsibility for the provision of Sanatorium and Hospital accommodation and treatment for cases of Tuberculosis passed to the Regional Hospital Board.

The Stafford Rural District Council in the letting of Council houses gives serious attention to applications where Pulmonary Tuberculosis is a factor. An urgent national problem is, as is well-known, the number of beds in Sanatoria, etc., which remain unoccupied owing to shortage of necessary Nursing Staff. Consequently, throughout the country many sputum-positive cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis perforce remain at home, many under over-crowded conditions, and thus many more individuals, and especially young children, are exposed to the risks of infection by the Tubercle Bacillus.

In 1949 the Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population in the Stafford Rural District was 0.39 compared with a figure of 0.45 for England and Wales. Three persons in the area died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in 1949. In the Rural area in 1949 there were three deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

ENGLAND AND WALES

Births, Deaths, Population, Infant Mortality, 1939-1948

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Living	Number of Births Registered	Estimated Popu- lation	Number of Deaths Registered	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate
1939	14.8	614,479	41,246,000	499,902	12.1	51
1940	14.1	590,120	39,889,000	581,537	14.4	57
1941	13.9	579,091	38,743,000	535,180	13.5	60
1942	15.6	651,503	38,243,000	480,137	12.3	51
1943	16.2	684,334	37,818,000	501,412	13.0	49
1944	17.7	751,478	37,785,000	492,176	12.7	45
1945	15.9	679,937	38,157,000	488,108	12.6	46
1946	19.2	820,719	40,595,000	492,090	12.0	43
1947	20.5	881,026	41,786,000	517,615	12.3	41
1948	17.8	775,306	42,750,000	469,898	11.0	34

On June 30th, 1949, the population of England and Wales was estimated to be 43,595,000, with 9,497,000 under 15 years of age.

Cause of Death	Number of Deaths (including those of Non-Civilians) registered in England and Wales				
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	592	555	509	534	300
Whooping Cough	1,054	689	808	905	748
Diphtheria	934	722	472	244	156
Tuberculosis	24,163	23,955	22,847	23,550	21,983
Syphilitic Diseases	2,591	2,395	2,462	2,315	2,083
Influenza	3,900	2,686	5,290	3,310	1,240
Cancer, Malignant Disease	72,110	74,291	75,771	77,850	79,537
Intracranial lesions of vascular origin	50,877	52,169	54,358	58,248	53,899
Other diseases of nervous system and sense organs	7,808	7,557	7,124	7,271	5,985
Diseases of heart	124,143	128,323	133,564	144,751	134,840
Other diseases of circulatory system	15,577	16,057	17,511	19,464	19,056
Bronchitis	27,186	29,665	28,209	31,474	24,913
Pneumonia (all forms)	20,040	19,984	20,215	22,695	17,629
Other diseases of respiratory system	5,903	6,118	6,130	6,626	6,192
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	5,018	5,337	4,939	5,860	3,505
Other diseases of digestive system	16,226	15,832	15,585	15,303	14,155
Non-venereal diseases of genito-urinary system	20,912	20,527	20,515	20,470	18,479
Premature births, congenital malformations, and diseases of early infancy	19,679	18,317	20,922	21,388	16,976
Old Age, Senility	16,325	16,982	16,013	15,468	12,292
Violence :—					
Operations of War	16,286	5,239	609	143	121
Road Vehicle Accidents	5,338	4,572	4,538	4,415	3,985
Other Violent causes	14,820	14,952	14,874	15,942	14,610
Ill-defined Causes	662	567	532	461	344
Other defined diseases	20,032	20,617	18,293	18,928	16,870
TOTALS	492,176	488,108	492,090	517,615	469,898

England and Wales. Estimated Population in thousands by age and sex at mid-1948 (excluding Non-Civilians) and proportion per 1,000 at all ages.

Age	Population (thousands)			Proportion per 1,000 Persons
	Males	Females	Persons	
0—	1,872	1,780	3,652	85.4
5—	1,473	1,416	2,889	67.6
10—	1,415	1,368	2,783	65.1
15—	1,143	1,410	2,553	59.7
20—	1,374	1,522	2,896	67.7
25—	3,148	3,289	6,437	150.6
35—	3,313	3,419	6,732	157.5
45—	2,665	3,010	5,675	132.7
55—	2,020	2,470	4,490	105.1
65—	1,372	1,790	3,162	74.0
75—	513	771	1,284	30.0
85 and over ..	62	135	197	4.6
All Ages ..	20,370	22,380	42,750	1,000.0

Infectious Diseases—Corrected Notifications.

Year	Measles		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis		Cerebro-Spinal Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1944	158,479	243	92,582	107	23,199	934	94,044	1,054	458	87	2,982	592
1945	446,796	729	73,622	84	18,596	722	62,691	689	779	97	2,739	555
1946	160,402	204	56,701	43	11,986	472	92,936	808	611	91	2,673	509
1947	393,739	644	58,027	42	5,609	244	92,662	905	7,207	500	3,146	534
1948	399,338	327	74,824	37	3,575	156	146,383	748	1,693	167	2,024	300

Year	Number of Children under 15 who have been immunised at some time before the 31st December	Percentage of Population under 15	Deaths from Diphtheria under 15	Deaths from Diphtheria in children who have had a full course of Immunisation
1945	5,243,902	59.9	584	33
1946	5,468,704	62.2	351	15
1947	5,638,357	61.9	207	14
1948	5,923,756	63.5	134	6

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Sanitary Inspection—Summary of Visits

Inspection of Dwelling Houses 2,645

These Inspections were for the following purposes :—

(a)	Inspection of Houses for defects (excluding Hobhouse Survey)	221
(b)	Re-inspection of Houses as to Repairs ..	428
(c)	Inspections of living Vans and Sheds ..	118
(d)	Inspections of Service Buildings occupied by Squatters	58
(e)	Re Overcrowding and Housing Applications	248
(f)	Re the occupation of Vacant Dwellings..	21
(g)	Hobhouse Survey—Dwellings inspected	1,482
(h)	Verminous and Dirty Dwellings	69
		<hr/> 2,645 <hr/>

Inspection of Premises for and re Nusiances	154
Visits re Food Supply—Meat	273
Ditto Ditto Ice-Cream	77
Ditto Ditto other Foods	62
Ditto Ditto Cafes	9
Drainage Inspections	120
New Drains Laid and Examined	31
Cowsheds and Dairies	142
Infectious Diseases	59
Visits re Water Supply	180
Samples of Water taken for Chemical and Bacteriological Examination	77
Refuse Tips—Supervision	202
Refuse and Salvage Collection	184
Factories (including Bakehouses)	48
Knackers' Yards	29
Petroleum Stores	17
Rat Infestations	247
Fumigations	23
Keeping of Animals	11
Shops Acts	183
Accumulation of Refuse	58
Miscellaneous Visits	67
	<hr/> 4,898 <hr/>

NOTICES SERVED DURING YEAR :

Informal Notices and Letters as to general matters ..	114
Verbal Notices as to general matters	41
Informal Notices to provide Dustbins	71
Statutory Notices—(a) Housing Act, 1936	6
(b) Public Health Act, 1936	5

NOTICES COMPLIED WITH (SERVED 1949 AND PREVIOUSLY) :

Informal Notices and Letters as to general matters	79
Verbal Notices as to general matters	44
Informal Notices to provide Dustbins	39
Statutory Notices—(a) Housing Act, 1936	1
(b) Public Health Act, 1936	9

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
DURING THE YEAR :

Total number received	..	..	..	..	..	94
As to Repairs to Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	17
Others	..	..	..	..	..	77

WATER SUPPLY

During the year 1949, the Area, in common with other areas, was affected by drought. Approximately half of the dwellings in the Area rely on supplies from private wells and springs, many of which are now being, and most of which will be, displaced by extensions of water mains in schemes approved by the Ministry of Health. In the late summer private supplies dried up to such an extent that it was found necessary to cart supplies to some of the villages, and the Surveyor's Dept. executed these emergency measures, delivering supplies to tanks placed at Woodseaves, Knightley, Sutton, Moreton, Shebdon and at Hollies Common.

The quality of the many and varied supplies differs greatly. Apart from a few dwellings at Islington, Nr. Newport, and in the village of Norbury serviced by Newport Urban District Council supply and Norbury Church Farm supply respectively, the public mains supplies are solely from this Council's boreholes at The Hollies, Gnosall, and from the Stafford Borough Council's wells and boreholes at Milford. The latter supply is chlorinated.

Samples of these public supplies were taken during the year by this department and found to be entirely satisfactory, results being as follows :—

Sample No. 291—The Hollies Supply.

Bacteriological Examination—

Nature of Sample : Bore, Hollies Common, Gnosall.

Date and hour of collection : 1/9/49. 11-0 a.m.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days,
37°C. .. NIL .. per 100 m.l.

Chemical Analysis :

Sample of water taken from the Bore Hole, Hollies Common, Gnosall, Stafford. Taken 11-0 a.m., 1st September, 1949.

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	41.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen	0.49
Chlorine	1.9
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ..	0.005
Appearance : Extremely minute trace of suspended matter.	
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	7.4
Hardness before boiling	22.8°
Hardness after boiling	12.8°
Temporary Hardness	10.0°

Sample No. 263—Borough Supply.

Bacteriological Examination—

Nature of Sample : Stafford Borough Supply.

Sample from scullery tap, Dwelling at
Newport Road, Great Bridgeford,
Nr. Stafford.

Date and hour of collection : 11/5/49. 11-30 a.m.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey two days,
37°C. .. Nil .. per 100 m.l.

Chemical Analysis :

Sample of water taken from scullery tap, Dwelling at Newport Road, Great Bridgeford, at 11-30 a.m., 11th May, 1949.

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	34.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0028
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0020
Nitric Nitrogen	0.22
Chlorine	5.5
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ..	0.017
Appearance : Very slightly opalescent. Extremely minute trace of suspended matter.	
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	7.5
Hardness before boiling	13.2°
Hardness after boiling	5.7°
Temporary Hardness	7.5°

The number of dwellings and the population supplied from public mains at December, 1949 (a) direct to the houses and (b) by means of standpipes are shown in the table below :—

Parish	No. of houses in Parish	Approx. population in Parish	Water supplied direct to house		Water supplied by standpipe		Total Dwellings on main
			No. of houses	Population	No. of houses	Population	
Adbaston ..	160	610	—	—	—	—	—
Berkswich ..	328	1,256	326	1,246	4	18	330
Bradley ..	87	319	—	—	—	—	—
Brocton ..	198	784	187	743	4	11	191
Castle Church ..	188	727	145	602	—	—	145
Church Eaton ..	161	519	—	—	—	—	—
Colwich ..	471	1,763	342	1,392	31	120	373
Creswell ..	84	322	81	310	—	—	81
Ellenhall ..	53	172	—	—	—	—	—
Forton ..	133	513	12	43	—	—	12
Fradswell ..	40	155	—	—	—	—	—
Gayton ..	50	190	—	—	—	—	—
Gnosall ..	615	2,229	332	1,153	5	17	337
Haughton ..	169	537	—	—	—	—	—
High Offley ..	187	678	—	—	—	—	—
Hopton & Coton	122	403	54	196	—	—	54
Ingestre ..	39	133	—	—	—	—	—
Marston ..	51	208	—	—	—	—	—
Norbury ..	83	291	6	19	9	29	15
Ranton ..	67	276	—	—	—	—	—
Salt and Enson	101	386	—	—	—	—	—
Seighford ..	271	1,002	137	478	—	—	137
Stowe ..	298	996	29	109	—	—	29
Tixall ..	56	206	41	156	—	—	41
Weston ..	113	418	—	—	—	—	—
Whitgreave ..	55	217	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	4,180	15,310	1,692	6,447	53	195	1,745

In addition 195 dwellings are served from privately-owned mains supplies direct to the houses and 61 dwellings are so supplied by standpipe. These are in the parishes of Adbaston, Forton, Hopton, Ingestre, Marston, Salt and Whitgreave and at Castlefields, near Newport.

During the year under review a further section of the Western Area Water Scheme was completed but, due to failure of the suppliers to provide the necessary pumping equipment by the date arranged, connections to mains supply of many additional dwellings in Gnosall, Woodseaves, High Offley and part of Knightley had to be unavoidably deferred.

The supplies to those dwellings without piped water, which dwellings depend on individual wells and springs, are more often than not unsatisfactory as regards quality. In those instances where on sampling the water was found to be unfit or—as so often happens—the supply is condemned by its topography and proximity to sources of pollution, remedial measures were required where practicable and reasonable. On the other hand, remedial measures are not practicable in many cases and, where mains are being laid or are about to be laid, the only reasonable action has been to advise users to boil or sterilize the water before drinking.

Samples taken during the year of drinking water together with results are as follows :—

	Number of Samples taken for Bacteriological Exam. and Chemical Analysis	RESULTS		
		Fit	Unfit	Borderline
Wells (Private) ..	46	11	32	3
Springs (Private) ..	1	—	1	—
(a) Public ..	4	3	—	1*
(b) Private ..	8	2	4†	2
Boreholes	18	11	3	4
	77	27	40	10

*This was from a small village (Norbury) spring supply which will be substituted by the Western Area Water Scheme.

† These four samples were all taken from one supply which has since been improved.

SEWERAGE

There were no new works of sewerage or sewage disposal during the year. It is felt necessary to again emphasise that the provision of public sewerage and sewage disposal plant is the natural corollary to the installation of water mains which is progressing through the district. Many nuisances are likely to arise by the overloading of back garden cesspools, etc., if there is an appreciable time lag between the provision of these two services. At the present time the greater number of houses in the area are drained to small cesspools and septic tanks and soakaways in the gardens of the houses. Many having conservancy closet accommodation, discharge sink waste only into highway drains. The numbers of dwellings connected to public sewers in the different parishes are as follows :—

Parish	Number of Houses			Number of houses on sewerage system	
Adbaston	160	..	—		
Berkswich	328	..	81		
Bradley	87	..	—		
Biocton	198	..	—		
Castle Church	188	..	39		
Church Eaton	161	..	48		
Colwich	471	..	153		
Creswell	84	..	30		
Ellenhall	53	..	—		
Forton	133	..	—		
Fradswell	40	..	—		
Gayton	50	..	—		
Gnosall	615	..	150		
Haughton	169	..	—		
High Offley	187	..	—		
Hopton and Coton	122	..	59		
Ingestre	39	..	—		
Marston	51	..	—		
Norbury	83	..	14		
Ranton	67	..	—		
Salt and Enson	101	..	—		
Seighford	271	..	18		
Stowe	298	..	20		
Tixall	56	..	—		
Weston	113	..	25		
Whitgreave	55	..	—		
TOTAL	4,180	..	637		

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

The collection of house refuse was carried out by direct labour from all the villages and built-up areas of the Council's district. Three modern type low-loading refuse collection vehicles (two of 7½ cub. yd. capacity, and one of 12 cub. yd. capacity) are used for this work and a fourth vehicle, a tipper lorry, was occasionally used as reserve. About 2,900 dwellings received the service which constituted a fortnightly collection to within a day or two either way. Most of the districts received an exact fortnightly service, collections being made on the same day of the week, but it is found altogether impracticable to guarantee this in every area of a district so scattered and so large. Towards the end of the year the intervals of collection in the more thickly populated Berkswich and Brocton Parishes were brought to approximately one week, a frequency of collection which has been since maintained. The few dwellings which do not receive the service are in isolated positions and here again it is obvious that the service cannot embrace such dwellings except at excessive additional cost.

The comparatively difficult task of providing a satisfactory and regular refuse collection service to a district so vast is partly shown in the return of miles travelled by the Council's refuse vehicles during the year, the total mileage for all four vehicles being 33,290. The average number of miles travelled on each "round" per working day was :—

Area No. 1. (Berkswich, Brocton, Creswell and Castle Church—Vehicle JRF 600)	.. ..	16.5
Area No. 2. (Colwich, Weston, Salt and Stowe—Vehicle GOX 945)	.. ..	25.2
Area No. 3. (Gnosall and villages in Western Area—Vehicle PRE 238)	.. ..	29.4
Reserve Vehicle—intermittently on all areas—		
JRF 463	.. ..	28.1
SRE 898	.. ..	17.9

Every effort has been made in formulating the "rounds" for each vehicle and the programmes of collections to avoid unnecessary mileage.

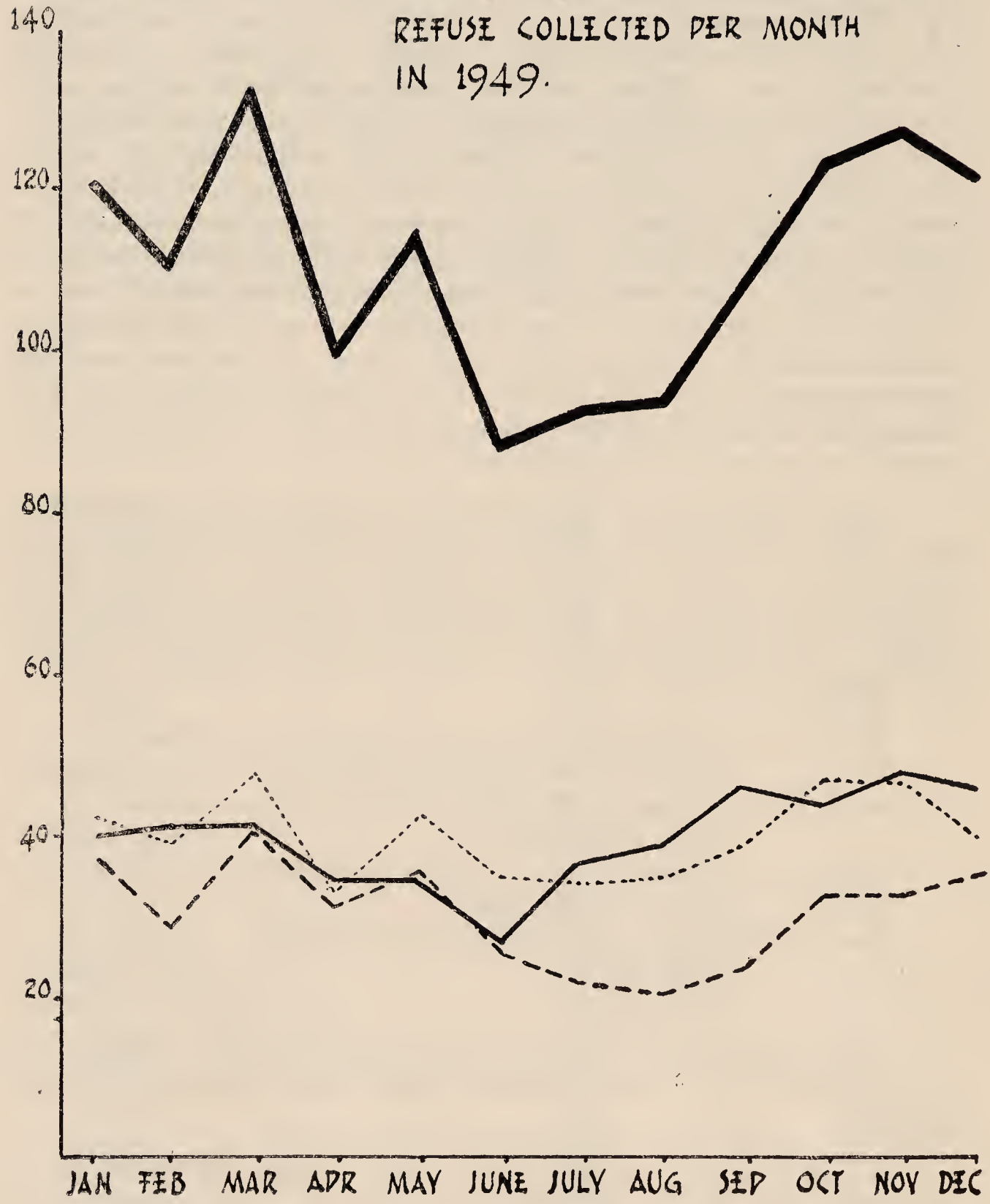
It will be seen from the graph that collections of refuse varied from 88½ loads in June to 132 loads in March. An example of the weight of typical house refuse in the area of the Council is 6 cwt. per cub. yard. Accepting the figure of 1.51 tons as being the weight of an average load of refuse for all vehicles, 1,998 tons of refuse were collected during the year.

The several refuse tips were kept in reasonably good order during the year though it was found necessary to close temporarily,

NO OF
LOADS

STAFFORD R. D. C.

REFUSE COLLECTION - LOADS OF
REFUSE COLLECTED PER MONTH
IN 1949.



- TOTAL FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.
- COLWICH, STOWE, WESTON, SALT.
- BROCTON, BERKSWICH, CRESWELL, CASTLE CHURCH.
- REMAINDER OF AREA (LARGELY GNOSALL AND DISTRICT).

completely seal off with sand and treat with D.D.T. the Stowe tip because of continuous combustion and cricket infestation—this action abated the nuisance. The Council continued to use the Gravel Pit at Milford Common for refuse disposal by controlled tipping methods, all refuse deposited by the Council being sealed off with equivalent loads of sand from nearby works. The site has been far tidier and risk of combustion due to indiscriminate tipping by others—has been removed as a result of the Council “taking over” the pit. Rigorous steps were regularly taken to keep the refuse tips rat-free by poisoning methods and gas during the year.

Costs.—The gross cost to the Council of refuse collection during the financial year ended 31st March, 1950, was £3,780 including vehicle costs, etc. After deducting the income from salvage sales during the year 1949 it can be estimated that the service cost approximately £1 3s. 10d. per dwelling per annum which is a reasonable figure for a relatively sparsely populated area. Wages, of course, form the major item of expenditure.

Salvage Collection. Collections of paper were high in the early part of the year and it is pleasing to record here that the Council were placed 25th in the National Waste Paper Contest which ended March, 1949, in which all local authorities in England and Wales took part and in which a prize of £50 was won. As will be seen from the table of collections following, the salvage of paper decreased greatly because of the much reduced prices offered and the removal of the direction to local authorities to collect.

Month	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	..	Income to Council		
					£	s.	d.
January	4	6	1	..	35	12	8
February	5	16	2	..	53	7	7
March	13	11	0	..	89	9	9
April	3	11	3	..	27	16	10
May	5	10	1	..	43	17	1
June	3	15	3	..	31	0	0
July		Nil		..	—		
August	6	14	3	..	26	19	0
September		Nil		..	—		
October		Nil		..	—		
November		Nil		..	—		
December	6	14	0	..	21	15	0
TOTAL	50	0	1	..	£329	17	11

HOUSING

New Houses erected or provided during 1949 :—

(a)	by Local Authority (Permanent Houses) ..	33
	These were at Hixon, 9; Gnosall, 14; Seighford, 10.	
(b)	by Local Authority (by conversion of Military Buildings at Aqualate, Nr. Newport) ..	22
(c)	by 16 M.U.	47
(d)	by Private Enterprise..	5
(e)	by C.C. for Police Force ..	2

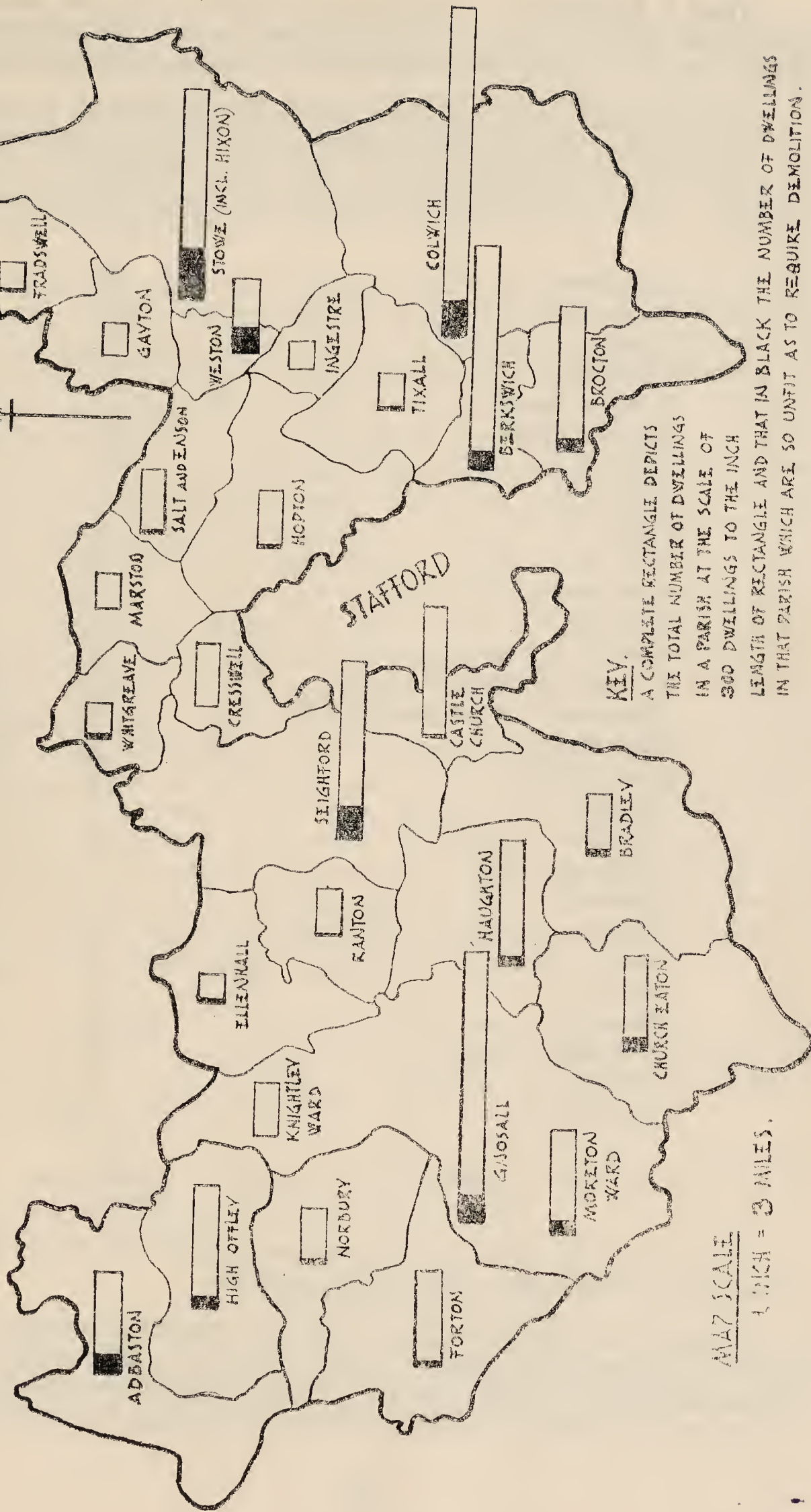
Existing Dwellings.—Much time was devoted by the Sanitary Inspectors to existing housing conditions. Many overcrowded cases and other families living in insanitary conditions were rehoused to better accommodation and many dwellings were repaired and improved by the efforts of the department.

Hobhouse Survey.—The house-to-house survey (Hobhouse Survey) of dwellings as to their degree of fitness progressed during the year, 1,482 dwellings being so surveyed. Not only were the dwellings categorised as to state of fitness but a detailed report of each dwelling as to occupants, accommodation available, provision or otherwise of various services and necessary sanitary facilities, details of the structure, etc. was prepared in each case. Action was also taken at the time to get serious disrepair and sanitary defects remedied.

The survey is now (June, 1950) completed as far as categorisation of “working class” dwellings is concerned, and the results for the whole district are as in the table following (figures relating to inspections during the year 1949 only are also given) :—

	Whole District	Dwellings surveyed during 1949
Category 1—Houses satisfactory in all respects	704	380
Category 2—Minor Defects	846	508
Category 3—Requiring Repair, structural alteration or improvement	791	292
Category 4—Appropriate for Reconditioning	291	155
Category 5—Unfit for Habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost	450	147
	<hr/> 3,082	<hr/> 1,482 <hr/>

STAFFORD R.D.C. - UNFIT DWELLINGS



Group 5 Dwellings. It will be appreciated that the number of unfit dwellings beyond repair at reasonable cost (450 dwellings) is high and represents 14.6% of the total of working class dwellings.

The map of the area contained in this report shows at a glance the "black spots" in this respect, the total dwelling accommodation per parish and relationship of grossly unfit dwellings to total dwellings. The exact numbers of Group 5 dwellings in each parish are :—

Adbaston	..	..	..	..	28
Berkswich	..	..	..	..	25
Bradley	..	..	..	..	12
Brocton	..	..	..	..	17
Castle Church	..	..	..	..	5
Church Eaton	..	..	..	..	20
Colwich	..	..	..	..	52
Creswell	..	..	..	..	—
Ellenhall	..	..	..	..	5
Forton	..	..	..	..	8
Fradswell	..	..	..	..	4
Gayton	..	..	..	..	—
Gnosall Village	..	..	..	..	22
Gnosall (Outwoods only)	..	..	..	..	12
Remainder of Gnosall Parish	..	..	..	..	24
Haughton	..	..	..	..	13
High Offley	..	..	..	..	18
Hopton	..	..	..	..	4
Ingestre	..	..	..	..	—
Marston	..	..	..	..	1
Norbury	..	..	..	..	7
Ranton	..	..	..	..	6
Salt & Enson	..	..	..	..	4
Weston	..	..	..	..	35
Stowe	..	..	..	..	71
Seighford	..	..	..	..	46
Tixall..	..	..	..	..	3
Whitgreave	..	..	..	..	8
TOTAL					450

The number of cases of Overcrowding by Housing Act standard encountered during the whole survey was 29.

Through the Hobhouse Survey and the various other visits and activities of the Department, an up-to-date record is kept of all serious housing cases encountered. By this means our worst cases are given the strong recommendation they deserve when Council

House Tenancy Selection Committees meet and the appreciation and ready acceptance by these Committees of the Department's views is acknowledged. Nevertheless it is with regret that the Department finds that its list of serious cases grows faster than the rate of re-housing such cases. It should be recorded, however, that many—perhaps most— of these serious cases are an “overspill” from congested towns.

There is no doubt whatever that immense difficulties have faced and still do face this authority in the provision of new dwellings but our view—which has been oft expressed ever since the beginning of post-war housing—is that, while there is a housing shortage, the idea of erecting small numbers of dwellings in each and every village in the area does not nearly give such satisfactory results as a policy of concentrating building on comparatively few but large sites where public water supply, sewerage, electricity, etc., already exist or could easily be provided. We opine that, unless far more labour is required to be drafted in to agriculture, there are with a few exceptions more than sufficient dwellings already in the remote rural villages and hamlets to provide for the agricultural workers. One of the main troubles is that too many of these dwellings in the farming areas are occupied by industrial and other non-agricultural employees who cannot get accommodation elsewhere. Granted many such dwellings need to be reconditioned thoroughly but such a programme is far quicker and more economical than erecting more dwellings on many small sites where water supply and sewage disposal works have to be provided specially for the purpose. The provision of dwellings on Estates at three or four selected focal points in the area by accommodating *inter alia* industrial workers now living in farming villages, would release many dwellings for agriculture in the position they are desired.

“Squatting” continued at Hixon Aerodrome but was reduced in extent. On the other hand the practice increased during the year at Wheaton Aston aerodrome, despite requests to the Ministries concerned to check it.

The number of names on the Council's list of applicants for houses at the time of going to print is 476.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The table below is culled from the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1949 to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, as required by the Factories Acts :

1.—Inspections by Sanitary Inspectors for purposes of provisions as to health :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Non Mechanical	2	5	—	—
(ii) Mechanical Factories	30	42	3	—
Total	32	47	3	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found :			
		Number of cases in which defects were found	
Particulars		Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness		3	3
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective		1	1
Abstract of Act not exhibited		8	Referred to H.M. Inspector

There were no outworkers known or reported in the district of the Council during the year.

Six factories in the area are granted Certificates that sufficient means of Fire Escape are provided and there are no contraventions in this respect.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Seventy Licences were issued during the year for the bulk storage of 49,476 gallons of motor spirit. Fifty-two of the licensed premises had hand-pumps fitted to storage tanks, 15 had electric pumps and three stored in metal barrels and containers.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provides a free service of rat disinfection to residential property. The treatment of agricultural land and property is executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries by contract. The cost of treating other properties by the Council is re-charged to the occupiers.

Infestations which were treated by the department during the year (from which there was a total estimated kill of 446 rats) were :—

Private Residential Property	15
R.D.C. Refuse Tips, Sewage Works and Sewers	6

The public sewers were tested for rats in September. In one instance an infestation was found and the sewer was accordingly treated and cleared.

SHOPS ACTS

All the shops in the area of the Council were inspected during the year and they are analysed as follows :—

				No. of Shops	No. of Assistants Occupiers' Family	Others
Butchers	..	..	..	8	13	4
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	7	11	2
Fruit and Vegetables	..	..	..	2	1	1
General Provisions	..	..	..	44	69	16
Sweets, Tobacco	..	..	..	12	18	2
Public Houses	..	..	..	48	90	6
Drapers	..	..	..	2	3	—
Garage and Cycles	..	..	..	11	11	16
Hairdressers	..	..	..	2	2	—
Post Offices (used solely as such)				14	22	1
Shoe Repairs	..	..	..	2	2	—
Total	..	..	..	152	242	48

The number of shops closed half-days was as follows :—

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
9	26	18	5	—	21

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

As in other districts, there has been an understandable increase in the number of vans and other moveable dwellings used regularly as habitations. Of applications received during the year for licences under the Public Health Act to station and use vans as dwellings, five were granted, these being subject to various conditions as to siting, sanitary facilities, etc. Early in 1950 it was decided to regularise the position by requiring that all vans, etc., contravening the licensing provisions of the Act be removed or applications for licences be submitted for consideration. At that time there were 27 moveable dwellings in the area.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Particulars of Food Inspected during the Year :—

MEAT.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and notified	23	138	6	7	2	609
Number inspected	23	138	6	7	2	609
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—						
Whole carcases condemned	15	87	5	4	1	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	3	17	—	3	1	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	78.3 %	75.4 %	83.3 %	100. %	100 %	1.5 %
Tuberculosis only :—						
Whole carcases condemned	—	20	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	5	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.3 %	18.1 %	—	—	—	—

The above animals were killed and examined at a Casualty Slaughterhouse in the area, which is the reason for the high percentage of meat condemned.

Weight of Meat (excluding horses) Condemned due to :—

(a) Tuberculosis	8,350 lbs.	
(b) Other Diseases or conditions..	42,835 lbs.	
	<hr/>	51,185 lbs.
Weight of Horseflesh Condemned		3,850 lbs.
Weight of other Food Condemned		811 lbs.
		<hr/>
Total weight of Food Condemned		55,846 lbs.
		<hr/>

Five slaughterhouses were licenced by this Council for the use of private pig-keepers. These licences were additional to the licence granted year by year to the Casualty Slaughterhouse in the district. This Slaughterhouse continued to be kept in a manner satisfactory to this Department. Licences were also granted for the use during the year of two Knacker's Yards in the area. Twenty-nine men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Food Preparing Premises and Food Shops.

There were only three premises in the area manufacturing prepared meats and two premises in which ice-cream was manufactured. These continued to be satisfactory. They—together with 11 shops from which ice-cream is sold are registered by the Council in conformity with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples of ice-cream were taken as follows :—

Bacteriological Examination	11
Chemical Analysis	4

One sample for Bacteriological Examination and one for analysis were found to be below usually accepted standards but following improvements required by the Department, subsequent samples from those premises proved satisfactory.

Food Poisoning.—There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

These Regulations and the Special Designations Regulations came into operation on 1st October, 1949, and radically altered the powers and duties of local authorities, which are now mainly concerned with the supervision of handling and storage of milk by distributors (i.e. retailers other than farmers) and with the issue of Licences to Dealers in Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk together with general supervision of the dairy premises.

The table following gives particulars of the registrations and licences granted by the Council :—

No. of Distributors only (i.e. without Dairies in R.D.C. area)	13
No. of Distributors with Dairies in R.D.C. area	7
No. Licensed to sell (a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	16
(b) Pasteurised Milk ..	13
(c) Sterilised Milk ..	4

Quite a number of farmers retail their own Tuberculin Tested milk through their Producers' Licence granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and these are additional to the figures above.

A. THOMSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

G. M. LAWTON,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

INDEX

	PAGE
Deaths	7
Diphtheria Immunisation	15
Factories	33
Food Inspection	36
Food Shops and Preparing Premises	37
Food Poisoning	37
Housing—General	30
Housing—Hobhouse Survey	30
Industries	4
Infectious Diseases	9
Ice Cream	37
Moveable Dwellings	35
Milk and Dairies	37
Notices Served	22
Public Health Committee, Officials	3
Petroleum Spirit, Storage of	34
Refuse and Salvage Collection	27
Rodent Control	34
Statistics, General	4
Statistics, Vital	5
Sanitary Inspections	21
Sewerage	26
Shops Acts and Inspections	35
Slaughter Houses and Knacker's Yards	37
Tuberculosis	15
Vaccination	15
Water Supply	22

